

What is claimed is:

1. A cosmetic preparation containing a metal-effect pigment consisting of a metal substrate having a layer encapsulating the substrate produced in the sol-gel process, providing a barrier effect with respect to sweat and saliva and preventing direct contact between the human body and the metallic substrate, said metal pigment being water-wettable.
2. A cosmetic preparation according to claim 1, **characterized in that** it is available in the form of a creme, a lotion, an eye shadow, a lipstick, a mascara, a gel, a make-up formulation, or a self-tanning creme or lotion.
3. A cosmetic preparation according to any of claims 1 or 2, **characterized in that** the layer encapsulating the substrate consists of SiO₂.
4. A cosmetic preparation according to any of claims 1 through 3, **characterized in that** it imparts a uniform optical impression of the skin without changing the color of the skin.
5. A cosmetic preparation according to any of claims 1 through 4, **characterized in that** it evens out or covers up skin impurities.

6. A cosmetic preparation according to any of claims 1 through 5, **characterized in that** it contains a percentage of 0.2% to 40%, preferably of 0.2% to 10%, and particularly preferably of 0.2% to 5% metal pigment.
7. A cosmetic preparation according to any of claims 1 through 6, **characterized in that** it is a nail polish.
8. A cosmetic preparation according to claim 7, **characterized in that** it is based on nitrocellulose
9. A cosmetic preparation according to any of the above claims, **characterized in that** it additionally contains benzotriazoles.
10. A cosmetic preparation according to any of the above claims, **characterized in that** the silica particles generating the coating of the metal pigment have an average diameter of < 100 nm and the preparation feels accordingly smooth in its application.